LETTERS@METRO.US

BRADY RE-SIGNS WITH PATS {page 20}

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NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

Homicide. Investigation

▶ Authorities investigate the scene where a body was found under I-93 yesterday morning. {page 02}

State officials: Fung Wah bus fleet is a threat to public safety

- Agency asks government to declare an 'imminent hazard' and shut down the discount bus service
- Failed inspections force 21 buses off the road {page 02}

METRO FILE PHOTO

local

Child rapper's videos lead DCF to investigate

- 'Lil Poopy,' 9, is seen slapping woman's buttocks, out in clubs
- Father to be questioned {page 04}

travel

The sun'll come out tomorrow ... in Barbados

- Tired of the snow, sleet and slow work week? It's time for some sun, rum and waves {page 17}

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In the news

4

Gas prices in the Bay State jumped another four cents per gallon since last week. AAA Southern New England announced Monday that self-serve, regular gas currently costs an average of $3.76 per gallon. METRO

Today's local tweet

"...and that's the reason I stayed up until midnight. #BenAffleck #Argo #Boston #BestPicture #Oscars #AcademyAwards #NiteNite"

@KARSONWITHAK, ON CAMBRIDGE GOLDEN BOY BRINGING HOME BEST PICTURE

In the news

Patrick on budget: 'It's a process'

BOSTON. "It's a process," Governor Deval Patrick said yesterday in reference to the cool reception his budget has received in the House and Senate.

Patrick has proposed raising the income tax to 6.25 percent and eliminating some corporate tax deductions and personal exemptions to generate new revenue for education and transportation.

"First of all, let's be clear about my way of thinking, meaning to make substantial investment in our transportation infrastructure to make sure we have a 21st century system and we need to make the kinds of targeted investments in education that we haven't been doing adequately to make sure that no child is, in fact, left behind and we have economic reasons in additional to moral reasons to do that," Patrick said. SHNS

Cape Cod man arrested for allegedly peeping on nude women at tanning salon

HYANNIS. A Cape Cod man was arrested Saturday for allegedly using his cell phone to record women who were disrobing at a Hyannis tanning salon.

The Cape Cod Times reported that 47-year-old Luis C. Macedo, of Mashpee, who works at Sunsational Tanning, admitted to police that he videotaped women through a peephole or underneath the booth's floorboards. His phone contained about 21 videos, according to the report. METRO

State seeks to shut down Fung Wah buses to NYC

Inspections find dangers in eight out of nine of the buses ◗ Agency wants 'imminent hazard' declaration

▶ A woman was killed when this Fung Wah bus crashed in New York City in 2008.

METRO FILE PHOTO

The state is asking the federal Department of Transportation to declare an "imminent hazard" and shut down the Fung Wah bus company after multiple inspections found dangers in the physical structure of carrier's fleet.

Nearly two dozen of the company's buses have been taken out of service after inspections.

Ann Berwick, chair of the Department of Public Utilities, said that the agency's Transportation Oversight Division conducted random inspections earlier this month and of nine Fung Wah buses examined, eight had cracks in their frames. Those buses were ordered off of the road.

Quoted

"When eight of the nine buses inspected have serious safety problems, you have to worry that when there's smoke there's fire."

BERWICK

State officials met last week with the bus company's owner who agreed to take all buses manufactured before 2005 off of the road. As of Saturday, 21 of 28 buses were taken out of service.

"When eight of the nine buses inspected have serious safety problems you have to worry that when there's smoke there's fire, so we became concerned with all of the older buses," Berwick said. "We're not talking blown parking lights here. These are problems that threaten safety."

Calls placed to the Fung Wah Boston office were referred to the New York City office. A woman who answered the phone at the New York City office declined to give her name, but said the company is still operating and that the owner was not there.

The discount bus line has for years been popular among college students who travel between Boston and New York City.

Berwick said the department did all it could within its authority. She said she sent the inspection findings and a letter to the federal DOT and requested an "imminent hazard" be declared. The DPU is also seeking that the interstate bus company be shut down until they take corrective action deemed appropriate by the federal agency.

Michael Naughton
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History of crashes

Fung Wah has a history of problems:

- While traveling on a Connecticut highway in 2005, a Fung Wah bus caught fire and sent passengers fleeing.
- A woman was killed when a Fung Wah bus crashed in New York City in 2008.
- About 20 people were hurt when a Fung Wah bus rolled over in Auburn, Mass., in 2009.
- Two people were seriously injured when they were hit by a Fung Wah bus while crossing a New York City street last month.

Body found under I-93 may be homicide

The body of a man was found under an Interstate 93 ramp in Boston yesterday morning and authorities are investigating the incident as a possible homicide.

Authorities provided few details about the discovery of the body.

The body was found in a gravel-covered area under the highway near Albany and Traveler streets before 11 a.m. Investigators secured the scene in an attempt to find clues.

As cars drove past the busy intersection, investigators

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ Investigators work the scene where the body was found yesterday.

wearing cloth coverings over their shoes photographed the scene. Evidence markers were placed next to what appeared to be a trail of blood leading from a nearby fence.

State police called the incident a "developing investigation." A spokeswoman for the Suffolk district attorney's office late yesterday afternoon that state police detectives were continuing to investigate the death as a "possible homicide" and that there was no further information to be released. METRO/MN

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In the news

Emerson film student dishes on her night at the Oscars

Nineteen-year-old Hearin Ko was still floating on a cloud of glitz and glamour yesterday, hours after sharing the stage of the Dolby Theatre with her Hollywood heroes.

The Emerson College film student beat out more than 1,000 other students in a contest to win a spot on the stage handing out statuettes.

As she waited to board a plane back to Boston, Ko gave Metro a breakdown of her Oscars night:

- **Best moment:** "When we were introduced on stage after so many celebrities and filmmakers. It just felt ... I was so grateful."
- **Most surreal moment:** "Standing next to Jack Nicholson was very, very surreal. I really like 'The Shining.' It is one of my favorite movies."
- **Scariest moment:** "Every time I held the Oscar I was very scared. It's very, very heavy. At one point I had to hold two, one in each arm. I felt like I was having a work out. Didn't want it to drop it onstage."
- **Favorite celeb interaction:** "Daniel Radcliffe. He was really nervous backstage, and we said, 'You'll do fine.' He was tap dancing on the sides, practicing for his performance. At the end of the show he looked so happy. He was high-fiving Joseph Gordon-Levitt. You can't beat that."
- **Most inspirational moment:** "Ben Affleck told us to stick with what we're doing, because one day we'll make it. We got so many encouraging words from these people we look up to. It made me really believe that I can do this if I keep going for it."
- **Funniest moment:** "Most of the laughs we got was seeing our peers onstage. There was a TV backstage so we could watch each other, and (another student presenter) had a moment where he was so confused. ... It was all caught on camera." METRO

▶ Ko guides actor-producer-director and Cambridge native Ben Affleck off the Oscars stage after his film "Argo" won the Best Picture award Sunday.

CHRISTOPHER POLK/GETTY IMAGES

Controversial music videos spark questions about home life of 9-year-old child rapper

The dozens of videos posted online show a 9-year-old boy holding wads of cash that barely fit in his hand, rapping about clothing labels, being a "coke boy" and slapping a woman's buttocks.

Police said the videos of the Brockton fourth-grader were enough to lead them to involve the state Department of Children and Families. But the boy's father said he doesn't believe his son is doing anything wrong, and his lawyer said he believes the accusations are "racially tinged."

The controversy surrounding the boy, whose rap name is Lil Poopy, started after police watched the videos.

Brockton Police Lt. Robert Sergio told Metro on Monday that another lieutenant filed a report called a "51A," which requests involvement of DCF. No charges have been filed, said Sergio, but police requested DCF to investigate whether there was any child abuse or neglect.

Sergio said the child was not taken from the home and there appeared to be no immediate danger to his welfare.

Cayenne Isaksen, a DCF spokeswoman, confirmed the agency received the report and is investigating.

Joseph Krowski Jr., an attorney who has represented the young rapper for several years, said that he believes the request for an abuse and neglect investigation is "absurd."

"Because they — the police or the powers to be or other persons — don't like something and they don't see the artistic value of it, they take the step of getting the government involved in your life," Krowski said. "There's nothing criminal or abusive in the videos and to suggest otherwise is absurd."

When asked about the boy being taken to nightclubs after midnight, Krowski said it's not much different from a child actor working.

"He's an artist and a performer. There are children singers, performers and athletes that go on the road," he said. "What's more abusive — that or someone who sends their child away to train gymnastics 16 hours a day for the Olympics?"

Lil Poopy, whose real name is Luie Rivera Jr., was featured in The Enterprise for his videos that some believe are too edgy and harmful for a young boy.

Some of the videos posted online feature him rapping about being a "coke boy." They also show him inside various nightclubs. One video of Rivera leads with text that it was recorded at a Reading, Pa., club at 12:32 a.m.

Another video shows a woman bent over and Rivera slapping her buttocks.

Isaksen said that the agency has up to 15 days for their investigation which could result in a referral to police for criminal charges, leaving it open to work with the family or closing the case.

Michael Naughton
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YOUTUBE

▶ Lil Poopy parties in the club ...

▶ ... and gets some love from the ladies.

5K

Rivera's Twitter handle — @poopythedon — had 4,816 followers as of yesterday afternoon. His profile said he is available for bookings.

Father answers

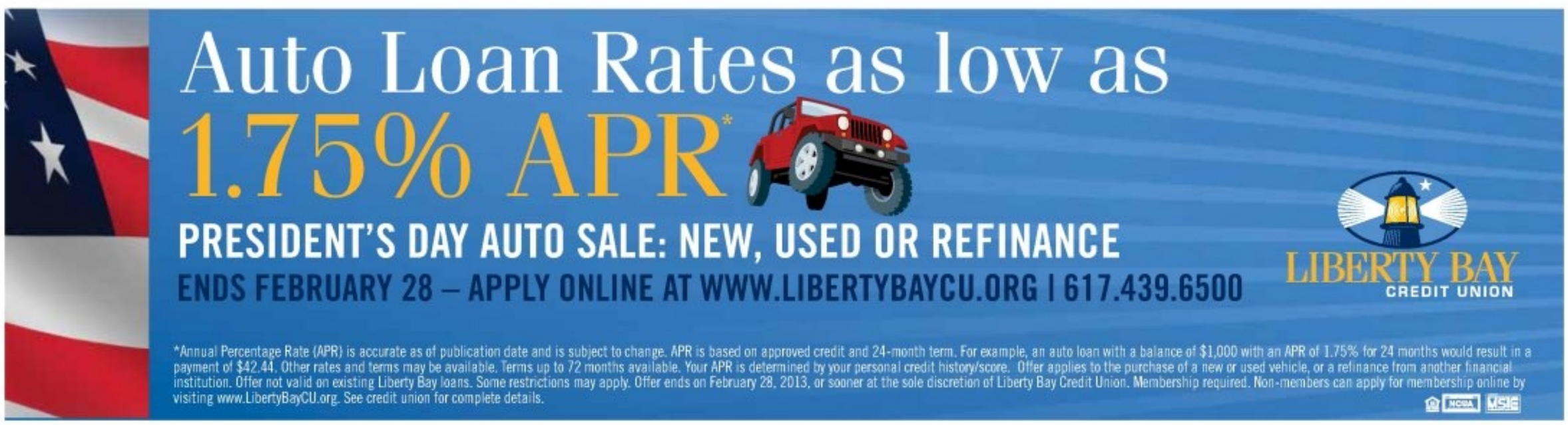
Rivera's father told The Enterprise that he was going to contact a lawyer first thing Monday morning after learning that the police were filing a report.

"He's not doing anything wrong. He's acting," said Luis Rivera, the boy's father.

The lyrics

Some of the lyrics from Lil Poopy's songs:

- "They say the early bird gets the first worm/I'm A-plus on my first term/I hit the booth like I hit the books/'Cause the girls love me and haters give me looks"
- "I'm really just a kid you don't get it do you/I'm doing good in school so I'm going to the jeweler"
- "I'm ballin'/You can call me Bill Russell/I can't trust myself/So hell no I can't trust you"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News in brief

Police in search of store purse thief

CANTON. Police in Canton are looking for a man who apparently has good taste in pocketbooks.

Surveillance images were recently posted online by police of a man who allegedly stole 10 purses from a store in town.

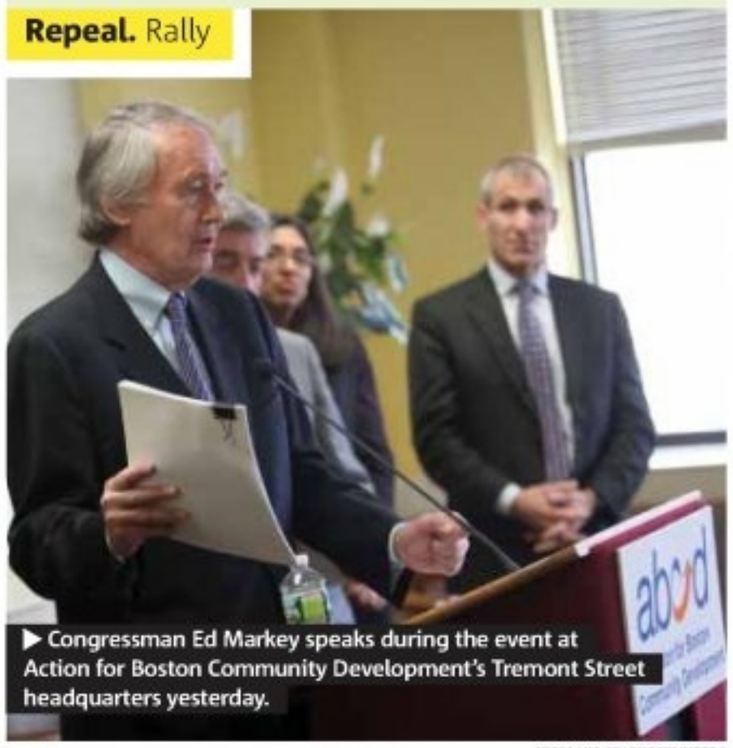
The man walked into the Marshalls on Feb. 15 and walked over to the pocketbook section of the store. He later walked out with 10 Michael Kors purses without paying. Online, the purses cost a minimum of $100 each.

He then got into a silver sedan and drove off.

Anyone with information can call 781-828-1214. METRO

▶ The suspect

Repeal. Rally



▶ Congressman Ed Markey speaks during the event at Action for Boston Community Development's Tremont Street headquarters yesterday.

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

Rally calls for repeal of budget

Bay State officials and organizations united yesterday for a "Stop Sequestration" rally that called on Congress to repeal automatic federal cuts to the military and domestic programs that are due to take effect Friday. The Budget Control Act of 2011 contains across-the-board cuts in many areas with the hopes of reducing the national debt by $1.2 trillion over 10 years. Massachusetts is expected to lose $14 million in K-12 education funding and another $13 million from programs for disabled students. METRO

'Snow monster' sorry for video of cars being plowed after his firing

Donning a T-shirt boasting, "F— you! I have enough friends," a Lowell plow driver recently fired for posting a video of himself taking pleasure in pummeling parked cars with snow posted yet another video — but now he's sorry.

Mark Hussey, who also goes by Dogg ("the snow monster") and Blackdoggxxx, shot the video through his windshield as he drove his plow in the Lowell area during the weekend of Feb. 9. After it went viral, Hussey told a local news outlet that he wasn't worried about getting fired, considering that he has been plowing city streets for 30 years.

But he had no such luck — he was canned on Friday. So over the weekend he posted a new video, in which he calls himself an "idiot."

"Am I an idiot? Yes. I'll be the first one to admit that. Should I have been taking a video? No ... no cars or personal property was hurt making this video or any time during the storm. The only things that were hurt were people's feelings and maybe some sore backs from having to shovel out. But that's what happens in a blizzard."

He goes on to say he should have "kept his mouth shut."

In the original clip, since removed from YouTube, Hussey seemed to relish burying parked cars, saying: "Watch this one. ... Now you see it, oh! That's snow going up over it ... over the roof of the car!" [Laughs] "You want to find your car? You come see me, I'll let you know where it is. Maybe."

Hussey

▶ "Yeah, I'm an idiot. I'm just a regular guy. I've been drivin' a truck for 30 years. I'm not buildin' rockets to go to space. ... Yes, I realize I should have kept my mouth shut, and not made such wisecrackin' comments or whateva. And yeah, people were gettin' plowed in, but that's my job. I'm not drivin' around maliciously to plow people in."

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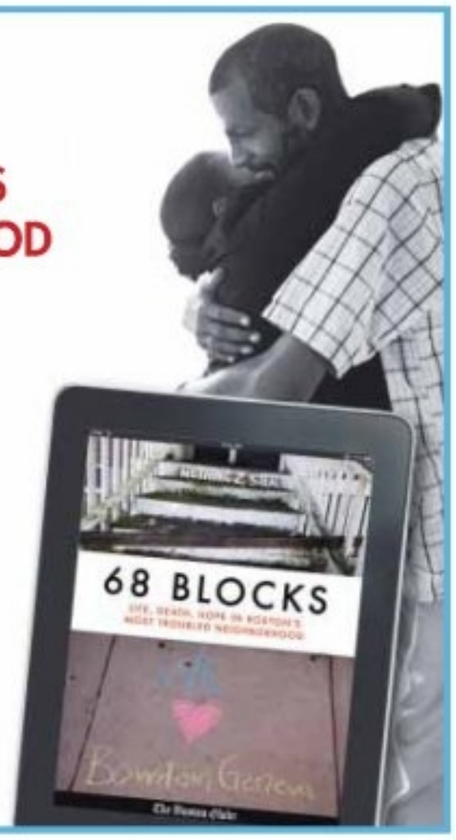

Paging Dr. You!

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center is pleased to offer a Mini Med School program starting in March led by some of the world's best clinicians and researchers. Mini Med School is a series of talks designed to help people improve their health and learn about advances in research and how best to negotiate the healthcare system.

Spring session: **Thursdays, March 7 – April 25, 6:30-7:45pm** (8 classes)

Fall session: **Thursdays, September 12 – October 31, 6:30-7:45pm** (8 classes)

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High school graduation rates up sharply, but minorities still behind

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Perhaps the biggest threat to momentum, however, is the lagging performance of disadvantaged students, the report's authors said.

For the first time in decades, the United States is making steady gains in the number of high school students earning diplomas, putting it on pace to reach a 90 percent graduation rate by 2020, according to a new analysis released yesterday.

The good news comes with a big asterisk: Students with learning disabilities and limited fluency in English face long odds to finish high school, with graduation rates for those groups as low as 25 percent in some states, the analysis found. Minority students also continue to fall well behind their white peers, with about one-third of African-American students and 29 percent of Hispanic students dropping out before graduation.

The "Building a Grad Nation" report — which was co-authored by Robert Balfanz, a leading scholar of dropout rates at Johns Hopkins University — found strong improvements in graduation rates in a diverse collection of states including Tennessee, Louisiana, Alaska, California, Texas and New York. The national graduation rate jumped from 71.7 percent in 2001 to 78.2 percent in 2010, with the pace of improvement accelerating in the past few years. **REUTERS**

29%
Percent of Hispanic students dropping out before graduation

Some states lead while others lag

Iowa, Vermont and Wisconsin lead the nation with graduation rates close to 90 percent, according to the report, which used data from 2010 and 2011. At the bottom of the heap: Nevada and New Mexico, where barely six in 10 high school freshmen can expect to earn a diploma within four years. Idaho, Kentucky and Oklahoma didn't use the same formula for calculating rates as other states and thus were not included in the report.

News in brief

Study: Americans still drink too much

On any given day in the United States, 18 percent of men and 11 percent of women drink more alcohol than federal guidelines recommend, according to a study that also found that 8 percent of men and 3 percent of women are full-fledged "heavy drinkers."

That means the great majority of Americans stay within the advised limit of two drinks a day for men and one for women, according to the study that appeared in the Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. **REUTERS**

METRO FILE PHOTO

Obama message to governors: Stop spending cuts

President Barack Obama urged state governors yesterday to pressure Congress to prevent $85 billion in across-the-board government spending cuts from going into effect on Friday, saying he is willing to reach a compromise with Republicans.

The president gave no indication that he would try to start negotiations or take steps to blunt the effect of cuts. He bemoaned what he described as a confrontational atmosphere in Washington, budget battles have provoked one near crisis after another since the summer of 2011.

"Some people in Congress reflexively oppose any idea I put forward," he said before a meeting with governors at the White House. **REUTERS**

Vets need not apply; IKEA gallops into food woes

War is hell ... on job prospects

▶ Team projects are a little different in the civilian workforce.

AFP

Returning vets face employment woes

Military veterans who have been deployed overseas for prolonged periods struggle to find work because of the traumas of war, as well as training that does not readily translate into the civilian world, according to research by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

High joblessness could not be explained by the business cycle and by demographic differences between new veterans and civilians, two Fed economists said in the paper.

"Individuals who return from wartime service may suffer from a variety of issues when returning home that can affect their employment prospects," senior economist R. Jason Faberman and senior associate economist Taft Foster wrote in the paper. Unemployment among post 9/11 military veterans stood at 11.7 percent in January, 3.8 percentage points above the rate for the civilian population. **REUTERS**

Rotten Onion

Onion CEO sorry for offensive tweet

The Onion, a source for online and printed satire that routinely skewers celebrities, apologized yesterday for a what it called a crude and offensive tweet directed at 9-year-old Oscar nominee Quvenzhane Wallis. The Internet was abuzz with commentary after The Onion on Sunday night referred to the young Best Actress nominee using a four-letter term seen as perhaps the most offensive word in American English. Steve Hannah, The Onion's chief executive, found the tweet devoid of humor. **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES

The tweet wasn't about her "cute" puppy purse.

Lack of cardinal virtues

Top UK cardinal quits in sex scandal

With just two days left before Pope Benedict XVI becomes the first pope in some six centuries to step down, he accepted yesterday the resignation of Britain's only cardinal elector, Archbishop Keith O'Brien, who was to have voted for the next pope.

O'Brien, who retains the title of cardinal, has denied allegations that he behaved inappropriately with priests over a period of 30 years, but said he was quitting the job of archbishop of Edinburgh. **REUTERS**

A horse of course

IKEA finds horse meat in meatballs

Sweden's IKEA halted sales of its trademark Swedish meatballs in 13 European countries after tests in the Czech Republic yesterday showed the product contained horsemeat. IKEA said it had stopped sales of all meatballs from a batch implicated in the Czech tests. The checks were carried out in response to a Europe-wide scandal that erupted last month when tests revealed some beef products contained horsemeat. This has triggered recalls of ready-made meals and damaged confidence in Europe's food industry. **REUTERS**

Spiced with equine

Quid pro nuclear quo

Iran offered relief from sanctions

Major powers will offer Iran some sanctions relief during talks in Almaty, Kazakhstan, this week if Tehran agrees to curb its nuclear program, a U.S. official said yesterday. But the Islamic Republic could face more economic pain if it fails to address international concerns about its atomic activities, the official said ahead of the meeting.

"There will be continued sanctions enforcement. ... There are other areas where pressure can be put," the official said. **REUTERS**

6 Countries trying to persuade Iran to give up nuclear efforts are United States, Russia, China, Germany, Britain and France

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Iceland to become first Western government to outlaw extreme porn

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Business woman Danni Ashe poses on the set Aug. 30, 2000, in Culver City, Cali. Ashe owns "Danni Hard Drive" and is the host of the most downloaded Internet show, "In bed with Danni."

Iceland is set to become the first Western democracy to ban online pornography, with a draft law to be completed in March.

The Scandinavian state has one of the highest rape rates in the developed world, and following a public consultation on sex crimes the government has decided that pornography is partly to blame. "Violent porn is influencing the nature — and possibly the scope — of sexual violence. We must tackle the easy access the porn industry has to children," Interior Ministry advisor Halla Gunnarsdottir told Metro.

Publication and distribution of pornography is already illegal in Iceland, and the government now plans to focus on extreme material. "The key words are 'violent' and 'degrading,' although even the mainstream has become extreme," said Gunnarsdottir.

Supporters claim that crime patterns reflect the growth of porn, which now accounts for 25% of all Internet searches. "You can see the influence of porn in the prevalence of gang rapes as well as the language and mannerism used by the perpetrators," said researcher Hildur Fjola Antonsdottir of the RIKK Center for Women's and Gender Studies.

Yet implementing the new law will face strong technical and moral opposition. "Everyone uses encryption, so you have to censor everything with a password or accept that censorship is not the way," Smari McCarthy, director of the International Modern Media Institute, told Metro. "It may be possible to achieve a weak level of censorship, but it won't deter people and will give an excuse to oppressive regimes in other countries."

Kieron Monks
METRO WORLD NEWS

Cold shower for porn users

The Icelandic government will consider proposals before the national election in April, and officials have expressed hope that other countries will follow.

Humane Society World Spay Day today

METRO FILE PHOTO

It's the less cute side of the pet industry. World Spay Day galvanizes organizers, the Humane Society of the United States and Humane Society International, with various animal welfare organizations in 45 countries to promote sterilization of companion animals, feral cats and street dogs.

According to the HSUS, around 4 million cats and dogs are euthanized in U.S. shelters each year, most of them simply because they have no home.

4M

Around four million cats and dogs are euthanized in U.S. shelters each year.

"The main reason for neutering is to stop suffering," says Vicki Stevens, the HSUS's World Spay Day coordinator. "Euthanasia is horrible for everyone: for the people who work at the shelter and for the animal who dies prematurely in a shelter. Much of it is so avoidable by neutering," emphases Stevens. "Shelters do their best, but there are not enough resources for all the kittens and pups who need homes." METRO

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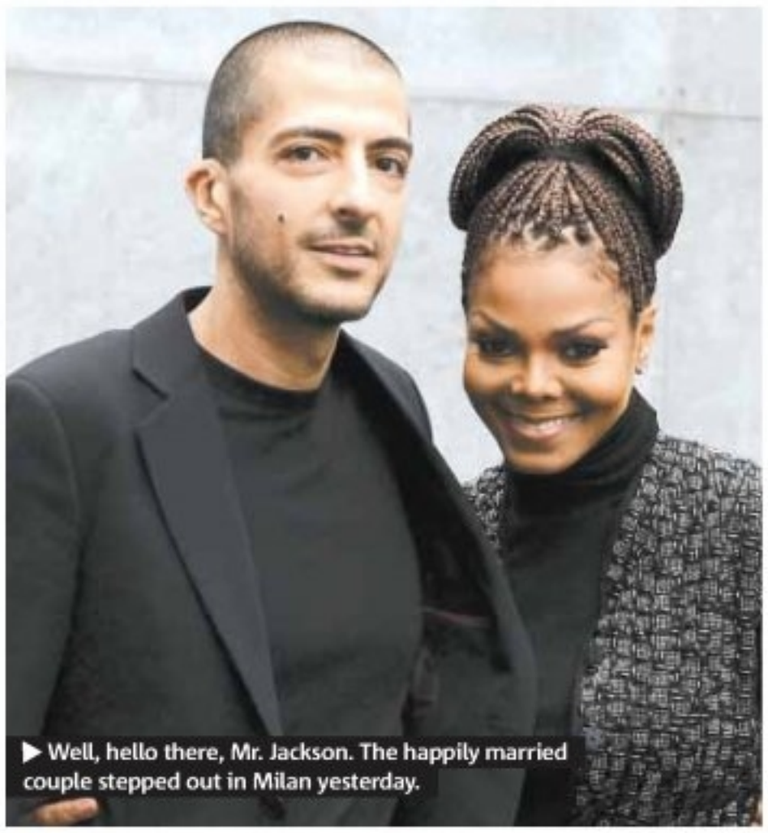
THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

It's Janet, Mrs. Al Mana, if you're nasty

If you've been wondering where **Janet Jackson** has been (besides being caught up in her crazy family drama), it turns out she's been off getting married. The 46-year-old singer secretely wed Qatari billionaire **Wissam Al Mana**, 37, last year. In a statement to "Entertainment Tonight," the couple tried to set the record straight about rumors they were planning an over-the-top wedding in the near future. "The rumors regarding an extravagant wedding are simply not true. Last year we were married in a quiet, private and beautiful ceremony," the couple wrote, thus blowing everyone's minds. "We would appreciate that our privacy is respected and that we are allowed this time for celebration and joy."

There's something about the phrase "Qatari billionaire" that has such a nice ring to it, right?



▶ Well, hello there, Mr. Jackson. The happily married couple stepped out in Milan yesterday.

Whoa! Would you look at Britney Spears?

So, it looks like losing her job on "The X Factor" and her fiance in a matter of months is doing wonders for **Britney Spears**. Who would have thunk it?

The singer stepped out looking **Jessica Chastain**-fabulous at **Elton John**'s 21st annual AIDS Foundation Academy Awards Viewing Party on Sunday night. She donned a Michael Cinco Couture gown paired with Saint Laurent shoes for the occasion. But it was her hair that looked especially divine — check out how good that chestnut-brown color looks on the 31-year-old. She hasn't looked this good in, well, forever. Whoever is this girl's new stylist should get a bazillion-dollar raise. Keep it up, Brit Brit!

West doesn't dig 'Suit & Tie'

Jay-Z announced last week that he's embarking on a tour with **Justin Timberlake** to mark "Suit & Tie," Timberlake's first new album in five years, but not everyone is happy about the news. **Kanye West**, who toured with Jay-Z last year following the release of their "Watch the Throne" album, sounded off about the new collaboration onstage in London this weekend. "I got love for [Jay-Z], but I ain't f—ing with that 'Suit & Tie,'" West told the crowd, according to Billboard magazine, before launching into an extended rap about selling out.

There is no greater irony than Kanye West rapping about selling out.

Talking points

Kunis is movin' on up

Mila Kunis has reportedly been shacking up with boyfriend **Ashton Kutcher** at his Hollywood Hills home while hers is being renovated, but she may make the living situation permanent, according to Us Weekly. "Ashton's male roommate is moving out to make room for her," a source says. "They really are perfect for each other. They were friends first, and then it switched to love. That's a great foundation for a relationship."

Applegate weds longtime fiance

Christina Applegate had more important things to celebrate this weekend than the Oscars. The actress, who recently bowed out of the sitcom "Up All Night," married longtime fiance **Martyn LeNoble** Saturday "surrounded by family in a private ceremony at their home in Los Angeles," according to People magazine. The couple has a 2-year-old daughter, **Sadie Grace LeNoble**, and has been engaged since Valentine's Day 2010.

Wallis to tackle 'Annie'

She may not have won an Oscar this week, but 9-year-old "Beasts of the Southern Wild" star **Quvenzhane Wallis** has plenty to look forward to career-wise. It was announced just before the Academy Awards that Wallis will be starring in a new film adaptation of the musical "Annie," stepping in for **Willow Smith**. "Quvenzhane Wallis is a true star and we believe her portrayal as Annie will make her a true worldwide star," Columbia Pictures president of production Hannah Minghella says. "She is an extraordinary young talent with an amazing range, not only as an actress but as a singer and dancer."

ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

▶ Wallis

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Jim Carrey dressed up for Oscar night, Elizabeth Hurley has been on a shopping spree, Wanda Sykes is fearing a face-plant and Sarah Silverman is impressed.

@JimCarrey: Elton's party was fun. My big feet and little angel wings were an expression of my somewhat awkward spiritual journey.

@ElizabethHurley: Exciting shopping today in a dusty warehouse in Chennai; now trying to persuade @warne888 that we HAVE to ship it all home..... Massive old carved doors, huge lumps of marble fretwork, divine antique swings....I know they'll come in useful one day.....

@iamwandasykes: If I every fall on national tv, I'm not getting up.

@SarahKSilverman: Michael Douglas looks AMAZING for Kirk Douglas

Your ticket to the hottest party in town

The annual Vanity Fair Oscar party provided yet another occasion for Hollywood to fawn all over itself. Here are some highlights from Sunday night's West Hollywood bash:

1: How many cocktails do you think **Joseph Gordon-Levitt**, **Chris Dodd** and **Harvey Weinstein** had before this photo was taken?

2: Best Director **Ang Lee** posed with his "Life of Pi" star **Suraj Sharma**.

3: Looks like **Anne Hathaway**'s hubby **Adam Shulman** has the whole "I'll stand in the background while my superstar wife takes center stage" routine down pat.

4: Please take note that a sitting **Catherine Zeta-Jones** is about as tall as a standing **Ashley Olsen**.

6: Elizabeth Banks gave a smooch to her husb — wait, no, sorry, that appears to **Jesse Tyler Ferguson** on the receiving end.

1, 2: JEFF VESPA/VF13/WIREIMAGE
3: WIREIMAGE
4, 5, 6: KEVIN MAZUR/VF13/WIREIMAGE

We're pretty sure Francois-Henri Pinault is the luckiest man alive: He's a billionaire and he gets to wake up to Salma Hayek every day.

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JACK BOWARD/THE CW

▶ "Cult" airs Tuesdays at 9 p.m. on The CW.

A show within a show

‘There is nothing too meta’ for the new CW mystery series ‘Cult’

The new mystery series "Cult" follows investigative journalist Jeff Sefton (Matt Davis) as the disappearance of his brother leads him into the dark underworld of the rabid, cult-like fans of a hit TV show called — you guessed it — "Cult." It's about a cult with a charismatic leader named Billy Grimm, who is played by an actor named Roger Reeves, who is played, in real life, by Robert Knepper. Still with us?

"What was interesting to me was to try to create a show that was truly unique, was truly different. And in doing so, yeah, it can make it a little harder to explain and describe," creator Rockne S. O'Bannon admits. "It's also a show with a lot going on, and I have a great deal of faith and trust in the audience to be able to hook into that."

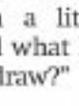
TV veteran and "Farscape" creator O'Bannon says he is no stranger to obsessed fans. "The origin of the show actually did come out of my 'Farscape' experience, where I witnessed the kind of incredible fan passion for a show and the ability of fans to find each other through social media and connect up," he says. "It started me thinking, what if the show were something with a little bit darker edge, and what kind of fans would that draw?"

Staying close to home

"Cult" marks another CW series for star Matt Davis, whose "Vampire Diaries" character, Alaric, bit the dust at the end of last season. Luckily, the network had another role in mind for him.

"I knew that they were going to write Alaric off the show, and I called my agents to let them know that I needed to find another job. And they sent me a few scripts over the weekend, one of which was 'Cult.' And it was clearly the best one of the bunch," he says. The producer felt the same about Davis, making him an offer for the role right away.

"From our perspective, there is nothing too meta," O'Bannon says. "One of the things that I really got excited about was how to create a visceral experience for the audience and really try to take the glass away from between the show and the audience. I'm hoping that the audiences will go along for the ride."



Ned Ehrbar
METRO WORLD NEWS

TV watch list

‘Celebrity Wife Swap’

REALITY. You may be just as surprised as we are that this classy show made it back for a second season, but here it is. The title basically says it all, and tonight's premiere will find TV mom Kate Gosselin and former Playboy Playmate Kendra Wilkinson trading families. Clearly the word "celebrity" is being used loosely here. **Season premiere, 8 p.m., ABC**

‘Parade's End’

MINISERIES. Still mourning the tragic season finale of "Downton Abbey"? So are we, which is why we'll revisit the same time period with this five-part miniseries written by Tom Stoppard and based on Ford Madox Ford's novels of the same name. There's an alluring love triangle at the heart of this World War I-set English drama that boasts a top-notch cast including the ubiquitous and beautifully named Benedict Cumberbatch, as well as Rebecca Hall, Adelaide Clemens, Rupert Everett, Janet McTeer, Roger Allam and Miranda Richardson. **Miniseries premiere, 9 p.m., HBO**

‘Face Off’

REALITY. The makeup artists must create looks for alien-werewolf mashups. Nothing more needs to be said. **9 p.m., Syfy** ● MATTHEW JACOBS

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No profits, just laughs

Comedian Eli Yudin's book version of @NotTildaSwinton is a labor of online love The collection represents a trend in online self-publishing

The musings of the mysterious Tilda Swinton are imagined by the fake Twitter account @NotTildaSwinton, now available in book form.

GETTY IMAGES

Musings from @NotTildaSwinton

- A mission for you. Go outside, hold an animal to your breast. That is real warmth, not the glow of your screen. I typed this on a rabbit.
- DO NOT EAT MEAT! Do not eat vegetables, either. Do not eat anything. Suck on a rock for millennia and think of what you've done.
- Of course I have received splinters. I do not remove them. Small branches emerge from me and bear fruit in the shape of my face.

Launched to viral acclaim during last May's lunar eclipse, Twitter parody account @NotTildaSwinton has been reincarnated into a book. Self-published by comedian Eli Yudin and co-writer Carey O'Donnell, the complete collection of 187 bizarre imagined musings of actress and noted eccentric Tilda Swinton is available online at no profit. In an industry veering toward bite-sized content, Twitter's 140 character limit could be the logical endpoint of increasingly serialized work.

After spending six hours laying out the book on InDesign, Yudin set up shop on Lulu Marketplace. At $11.06, the book was priced to break even. "We didn't want to seem like we were selling out," Yudin said. Not to mention the avoidance of potentially thorny issues with Swinton herself.

"Not Tilda Swinton" is one of thousands of self-published books for sale on Lulu Marketplace, which allows any author to sell their work. Brian Matthews, an executive vice president at Lulu's, argues that self-publishing has democratized publishing by removing barriers between readers and authors. "If an author wants to publish a book, we'll help them publish it as long as we don't have concerns related to the material," Matthews said.

In recent years, readers have leaned toward buying shorter spurts of content in self-publishing. "Instead of monolithic books, we're seeing authors release content more frequently in smaller, consumable amounts," Matthews said. And nothing is smaller and more consumable than an artfully composed latter-day tweet — and Yudin is one of the masters.

Natalie Shure
Natalie.Shure@metro.us

Where is the quality control?

Readers can rely on Lulu's algorithms and reviews to help them pick their next read. Even so, it can be hard to determine quality. "The real issue is that in traditional publishing, you have an agent, editor and sales rep acting as a filter," said Cathy Langer, long-time buyer at Denver's independent bookstore, Tattered Cover. "Self-publishing eliminates these filters. It can be hard to tell what's going to be good."

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Talib Kweli is signing autographs this week.

JOHNNY NUNEZ/WIREIMAGE

Streams of 'Conscious'

MC Talib Kweli on the double-edged sword of superfans and a constantly evolving creative streak

If Brooklyn MC Talib Kweli wanted, he could rest on the legacy of his past work.

And if he did, some of his fans would probably be OK with that. His solo debut, "Quality, Reflection Eternal," his collaboration with producer/DJ Hi-Tek and his "Mos Def & Talib Kweli Are Blackstar" with Mos Def (now known as Yasiin Bey) are seen as classics that influenced a generation of rhymers.

But riding a nostalgia wave is not his style.

Kweli has been delivering creatively since the start of his career with a near constant stream of music and touring. With his sixth solo album, "Prisoner Of Conscious," which includes guest spots from Melanie Fiona, Kendrick Lamar, Miguel, Curen$y and Busta Rhymes, he hopes to defy his hard-core fans' expectations.

But does having fans so connected to the classics burden him creatively?

"It's a blessing that people feel that way. It does become a challenge," says Kweli about his fans, "So you have to go with the tide. "I could do shows and be like 'No, don't listen to the old s—.' And be frustrated. "Or I can parlay that energy into the new stuff I'm doing."

Quoted

"You have to go with the tide. I could do shows and be like 'No, don't listen to the old s—.' And be frustrated. Or I can parlay that energy into the new stuff I'm doing."
KWELI

If you go

- **Talib Kweli autograph signing**
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  www.laced569.com
- **Talib Kweli**
  Tuesday, Feb. 26, 8 p.m.
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  472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
  $20, 18 +, 617-864-EAST
  www.mideastclub.com

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What people move to

Kweli's desire for evolution has also led him to explore new creative realms. Kweli is putting the final touches on first book and staying busy with his band with Res, Idle Warship along with his newest love, DJing. The transition behind the turntables has had an interesting effect on Kweli's music.

"I don't think that was an intention of mine but I would be lying to say that it didn't influence what I do," he says. "When I started to make this album I set out to make something that was focused on the music, not necessarily something that would bang in the club but something to focus on the musicality of what I do. I think DJing helped me to be more cognizant of certain rhythms and what people move to."

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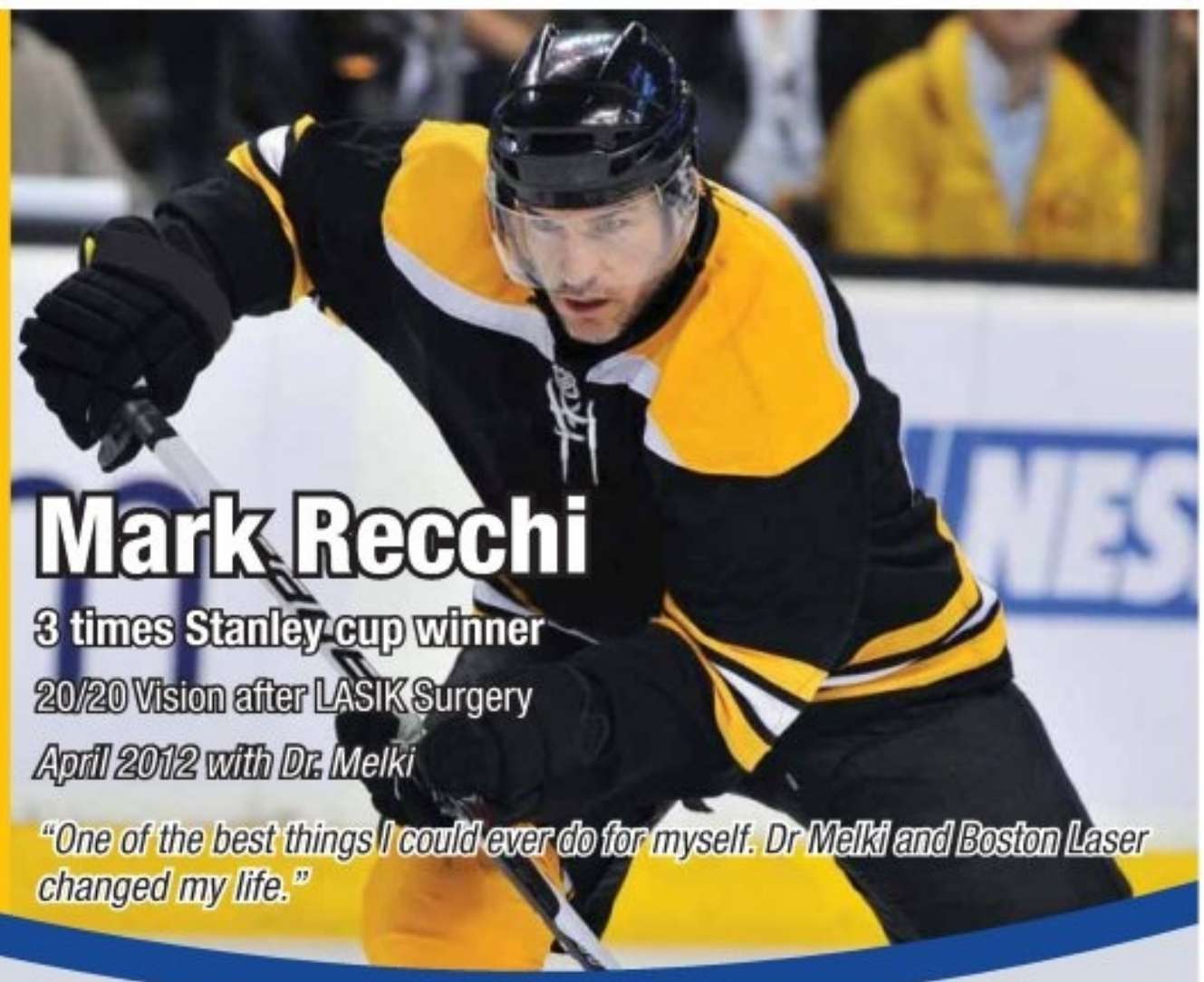
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Milan Fashion Week news

In Milan: Trousers looking very '80s, sleeves very fancy

Salvatore Ferragamo

Etro

Armani

There's one more day of Milan Fashion Week left, and it's worth devoting some ink to the smattering of non-committal, oddly impractical looks. Among all of the perfectly sensible oversized coats and knee-length dresses, there's been a range of looks that are kind of dressy (but not quite suitable enough for cocktail events) or kind of cold-weather appropriate — but weirdly not at the same time. Case in point: Marni's strapless, bare-shouldered daytime looks, which came with giant, fur stoles. And then there was Etro's in-your-face, hyper-graphic separates, which would only make sense in the closet of magazine editors, bloggers, stylists and anyone else regularly featured on street-style websites and blogs. A lot of the daytime options look as if they were designed with an end result of a Tommy Ton slideshow in mind.

The trends

▶ Relaxed and easy: Oversized pants ruled the runway at Emporio Armani.
So far, the new shape for fall '13 is slightly oversized and slouchy. Trousers, in particular, have been loose and roomy. Sometimes they've come with a little pleating on top — very '80s —which is not always easy to wear. But the general idea, as seen in shows such as Emporio Armani, Sportmax and Blumarine, is fluid and easy — good news for all of you used to last season's laid-back pajama pants.

▶ Dolce & Gabbana

▶ Black and white: Salvatore Ferragamo
This one is pretty straightforward. High contrast is a big idea so far, and we'll have a big variety to choose from — sexy plaids at Versace; clean minimalism at Salvatore Ferragamo and high-wattage graphics at Roberto Cavalli.

▶ Hyper-graphic: Etro
Prints have been around for a while now. We've mixed them, clashed them and matched them from head to toe. So there's nowhere else to take them but to a louder, more extreme place. Think of an acid trip transplanted onto a dress like the ones that walked down the runway at Iceberg, Just Cavalli and Etro.

▶ The arm as focal point: Dolce & Gabbana
Last winter, fashion seemed to revolve around the waist, with its plethora of cinched, belted and tied coats and dresses. But the arms seem to be ruling now, thanks to the elaborate sleeves that have been on show.

● KENYA HUNT

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mybooks

Eating to conceive — and beyond

Nutrition can contribute to a successful, healthy pregnancy Dr. Victoria Maizes guides women through the happy challenges of eating for two

STOCKBYTE

You want to eat whole-fat dairy when pregnant.

Proper nutrition while pregnant or trying to conceive can be a major determining factor in the overall health of a child. In her new book "Be Fruitful: The Essential Guide to Maximizing Fertility and Giving Birth to a Healthy Child," Dr. Victoria Maizes guides women through the challenges of eating for two. We had a few questions about her recommendations.

What are some of the biggest myths surrounding nutrition and pregnancy that you'd like to debunk?

One is that they should not eat fish, which can be detrimental to the development of a fetus because of high levels of mercury. Women should eat 12 ounces a day of lower mercury fish. Quite a few studies show that fish are the best source of omega 3s in the diet.

What other foods should women watch out for while pregnant?

Ninety-eight percent of apples are contaminated with pesticides, even after washing. If you're going to eat them, you need to eat organic. Same goes for celery, peaches and strawberries. During the first trimester of pregnancy, your baby is developing its entire neurological system. It is uniquely sensitive. It is this especially bad window if it gets exposed to chemicals, because they don't have the mature detoxification system that adults have.

How should women alter their diets if they are trying to conceive?

We recommend lots of fruits and vegetables, omega 3 fatty acids and whole-fat dairy, including ice cream. Whole-fat ice cream is an OK indulgence food! Women should also be taking a daily multivitamin that has folic acid, iron and iodine when they want to conceive. It will help them conceive more easily and reduce their risk of miscarriage.

Natalie Shure
Natalie.Shure@metro.us

Is that fish fishy?

To tell if a fish at a store or restaurant is low in mercury, Dr. Maizes recommends keeping a chart in your purse. She points to one on her website, **www.victoriamaizesmd.com**, which you can reference.

Q&A

What are the biggest no-no foods?

A lot of processed foods have partially hydrogenated oils, which are a source of trans fats in the diet. Trans fats also increase infertility. We also like people to limit caffeine to no more than 300 milligrams a day. When you drink a significant amount, it can increase your risk of miscarriage.

No artificial sweeteners; they can cross the placenta. Raw fish can carry certain microbes that can be dangerous. Soft and unpasteurized cheeses can also carry harmful bacteria.

Parenting notes

Pediatricians oppose school suspension, expulsion

A group representing pediatricians says disciplining students with out-of-school suspension or expulsion is counterproductive and should only be used on case-by-case basis.

The policy statement from the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that pediatricians advocate for prevention and alternative strategies.

"The adverse effect of out-of-school suspension and expulsion on the student can be profound," the experts write in the journal Pediatrics.

"Students who experience out-of-school suspension and expulsion are as much as 10 times more likely to ultimately drop out of high school than are those who do not," they add.

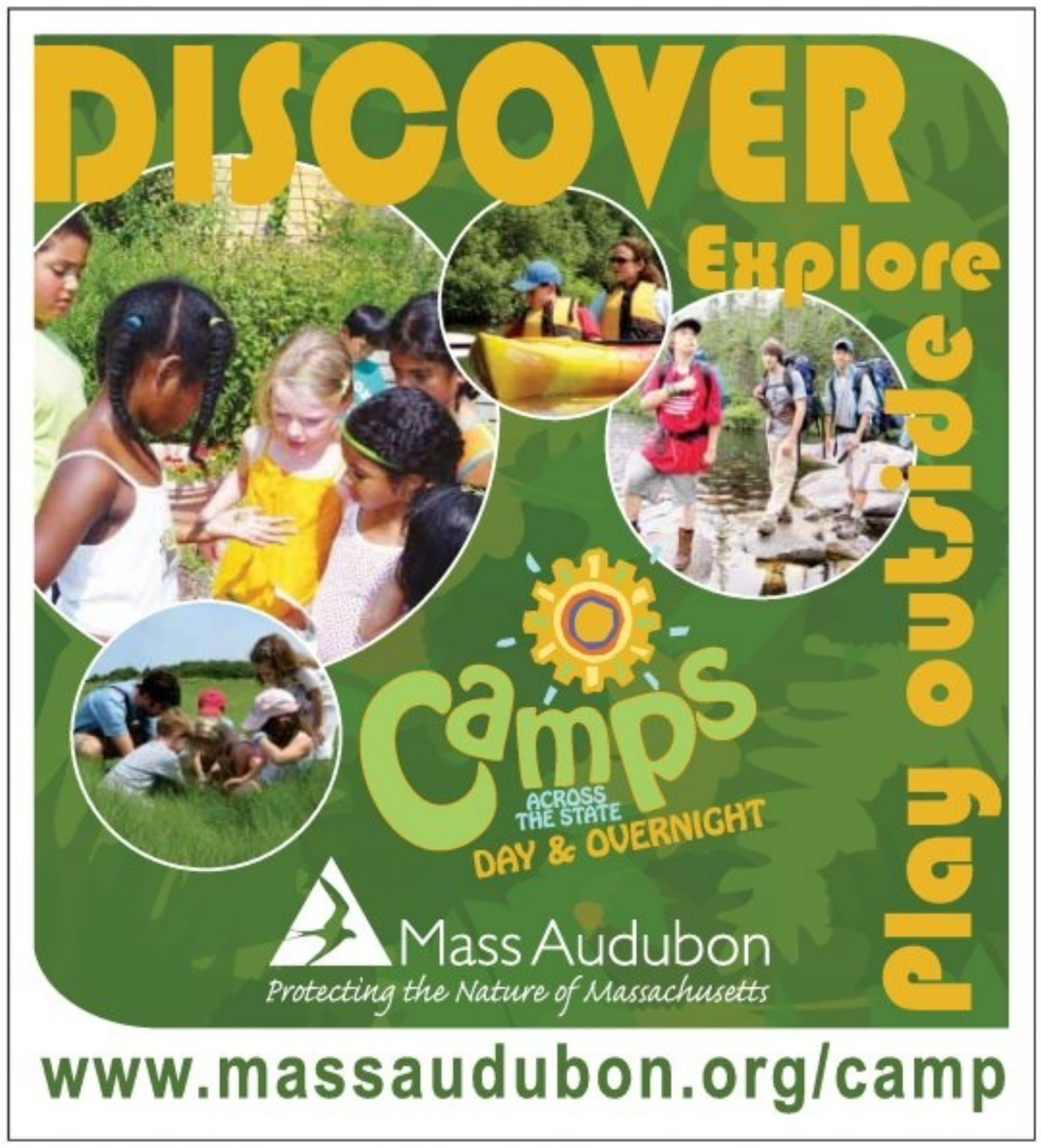
Kathy Cowan, director of communications for the National Association of School Psychologists in Bethesda, Md., said their organization largely supports the AAP's statements.

"Sometimes (out-of-school suspension and expulsion) are absolutely necessary, but they're not effective at improving behavior in general," Cowan told Reuters Health. REUTERS

Quote

"Sometimes [suspension and expulsion] are absolutely necessary, but they're not effective at improving behavior in general."

KATHY COWAN, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS



myletters&games

Letters

letters@metro.us

The US military's got a big stockpile ... of money

RE: "GOVERNORS SAY SPENDING CUTS WILL PUSH US BACK TO RECESSION" (METRO, FEB. 25) As a veteran, I have personally seen numerous areas in the military where spending cuts would not lead to decreased military readiness or safety for soldiers or the American people.

The sheer amount of money spent on wasteful things and civilian employees hired to do jobs that soldiers could do (who are already being paid) would astound anyone who took an in-depth look. Massive does not even begin to describe the defense department's budget.

If they cut wasteful spending, like on cold weather gear for an Iraq deployment, and eliminated civilians getting paid six figures to do a job that a soldier could do, the Pentagon could easily cut millions of dollars from its bloated budget.

ANNIE FERRIS, VIA E-MAIL

Quoted

"A trimmer, smarter, more flexible Army that uses its resources in responsible ways would do wonders for the nation's current debt crisis."

FERRIS

Two out of three people agree: Kids are better than pets

RE: "THE FAMILY PET IS AS VALUABLE AS YOUR KID" (METRO, FEB. 22-24) I am not an animal rights activist, but to each their own.

If someone values the lives of animals as much as human lives, so be it, but they should be spayed and neutered (the people that is). A lot of people who claim to love mankind are hypocrites anyway and are cruel to their own children and inconsiderate of other people. Furthermore, Mindy McCready chose to end her life and it was her decision and her right as much as anyone else may disagree.

LUCY MARTINEZ, VIA E-MAIL

I was amazed with George McDonald's letter to the editor in which he claims that our pets are "as much a part of the family as our children are." This is absolutely ludicrous. Comparing pets to children is sick and disturbing. I understand that we love our pets, but an animal is an ANIMAL. A human being is a HUMAN BEING.

EUGENE SULLIVAN, VIA E-MAIL

Your opinions on animals are completely insane and infuriating. My son has given me nothing but years of stress pain and aggravation. My cat, Jet, has been a blessing — and I'd trade my son off for him in a metro second.

THOMAS BROWNELL, VIA E-MAIL

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** You're likely to function far more effectively when you can operate independently. Sadly, you could be more of a hindrance in situations where teamwork is required.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Usually, you don't blab things that should be kept to yourself, but today you might not be able to help telling on someone whom you really dislike. Try not to take the low road.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** There are days when socializing can be a negative experience, and it could be one of those times. If you find this happening to you, make a quick exit.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Your peers could find your motives suspicious; if you think this to be true, make certain everything you do is above reproach. If you try anything funny, you'll be caught.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Even if you feel like sounding off to someone who really deserves it, it would be best that you don't. Hold your tongue and count to 10, if that's what it takes to subdue your anger.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** If you find yourself involved in a financial transaction that requires a lot of paperwork, don't get lazy and take things for granted. Read the fine print, down to the very last comma.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Friends will tolerate a bit of restlessness on your part, but not to the point of changing group plans. Be thoughtful about your behavior.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** When conversing with others, speak well of friends who aren't present or say nothing at all. Any comments you make will be repeated and even distorted to those being spoken about.

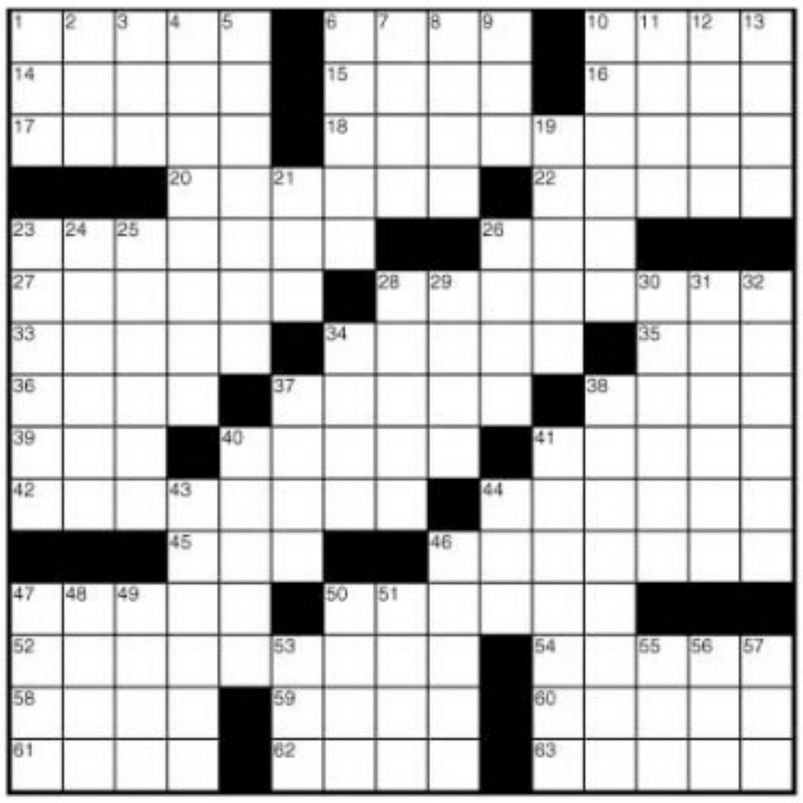
♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** To expedite certain tasks or assignments, you might be tempted to take a few shortcuts. Unfortunately, this might only cause more work for you.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** It'll reflect poorly on your image if you try to take credit for something that you had only a small part in producing. Don't let your ego put you in an embarrassing position.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Don't overreact if another's point of view is diametrically opposed to yours. Remember, everyone is entitled to express his or her opinion. Show them some respect.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** When left to your own devices, you're pretty good at figuring things out. Complications could enter the picture, however, with comments by an unsolicited adviser.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL



Across
1 Like cirrus clouds
6 Memoir topic
10 Blow it
14 Jetsons' dog
15 Quechua speaker
16 Jason's vessel
17 Competed in a rodeo
18 Wise guy (hyph.)
20 Vanquish
22 Meted out
23 Veldt antelopes
26 Debussy subject
27 Honked
28 Discussed again
33 Goose genus
34 Flies alone
35 Take unfair advantage of
36 Bonny miss
37 Referees' calls
38 Droop-nosed flyers of yore
39 "ER" setting
40 Gaucho's lasso
41 Shop machine
42 Buddy
44 Real-estate party
45 El Dorado loot
46 Modify
47 "The Velvet Fog"
50 Perfect place
52 Fake diamonds?
54 Urged on
58 Evergreen
59 Oodles (2 wds.)
60 "Groovy!"
61 Plant anchor
62 Back talk
63 In a — (quickly)

Down
1 Tolstoy title word
2 Prefix meaning "equal"
3 Indy 500 sponsor
4 Occurs earlier
5 Mountaineer, maybe
6 Walleyed fishes
7 She taught in Siam
8 Highlander
9 Shooting marble
10 Croc's cousins
11 Aloud
12 Gawk at
13 Quit, in poker
19 Game plans
21 Current rage
23 Slanted type
24 Albert II's realm
25 Play — (feign sleep)
26 Electrical units
28 Mail carrier's beat
29 She, in Seville
30 Work fast
31 Swimmer — Williams
32 Arid region
34 Prices may do it
37 Rover's pal
38 Flotsam collector
40 More scarce
41 Easygoing
43 Saddle horn
44 Wet thoroughly
46 Is priced at
47 Recipe qtys.
48 John Glenn's state
49 Rajah's consort
50 Stanford rival
51 Ring stats
53 W. Hemisphere pact
55 Moo goo — pan
56 And so forth
57 Mother rabbit

		7	1	5	6		8	9
4			3				6	
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9		5		6		3		4
	6			9			1	
5								
	4				2			3
6	3		4	7	9	2		

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

	5					8		9
		6		9			1	3
			1	2		6		
			9	5			6	
	1	9				5	8	
	3			6	2			
		5		1	6			
7	9			8		1		
1		2					3	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

F	A	D	E	D	■	E	A	V	E	■	F	L	E	E
I	R	A	T	E	■	S	T	O	W	■	U	L	N	A
B	L	U	E	B	O	T	T	L	E	■	G	A	T	S
S	O	B	■	A	G	E	N	T	■	A	I	M	E	E
■	■	■	T	R	E	E	■	■	R	E	T	A	R	D
R	E	B	U	K	E	■	L	A	I	R	■	■	■	■
U	R	A	L	S	■	F	O	L	L	O	W	E	R	■
B	I	T	S	■	H	O	T	E	L	■	A	R	E	A
■	C	H	A	P	E	A	U	X	■	A	N	N	U	M
■	■	■	O	W	L	S	■	C	R	E	E	P	Y	■
L	A	S	E	R	S	■	■	B	U	C	S	■	■	■
A	G	I	L	E	■	E	D	I	T	H	■	D	E	W
B	A	R	A	■	W	O	R	D	S	W	O	R	T	H
E	V	E	N	■	E	N	I	D	■	A	W	A	R	E
L	E	N	D	■	E	S	P	Y	■	Y	E	M	E	N

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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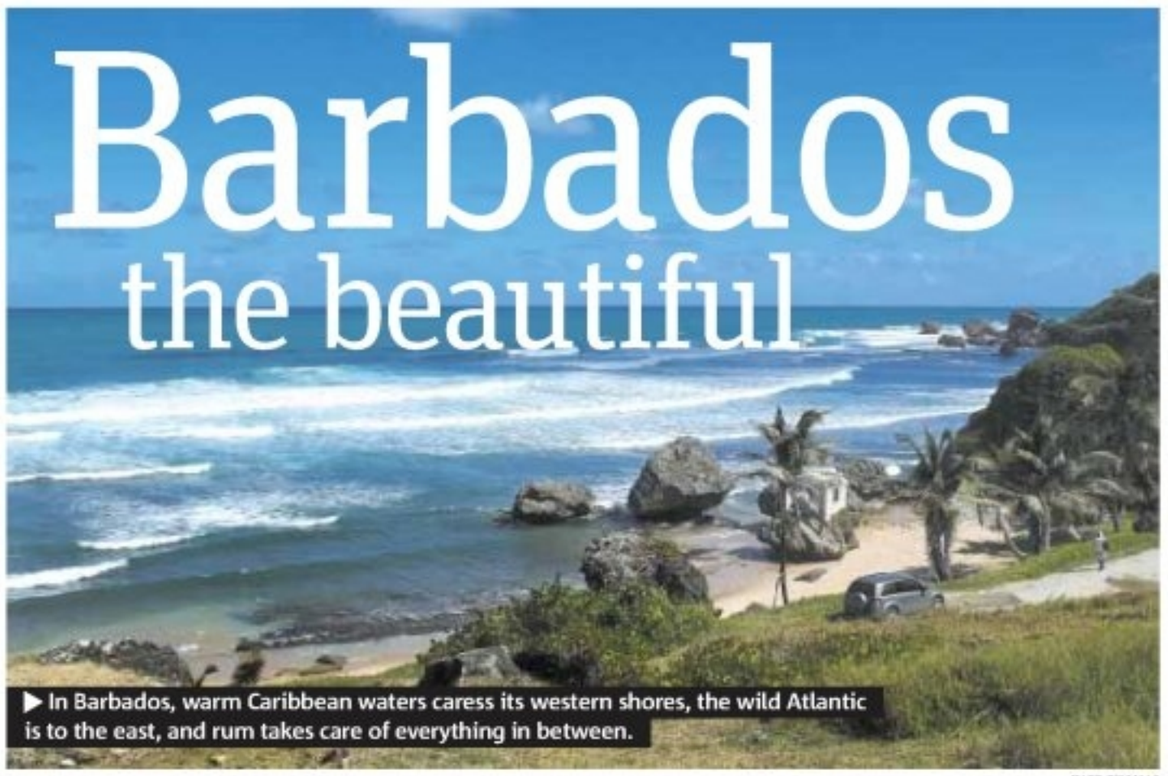
destinations

Barbados
the beautiful

This Caribbean island doesn't see too many American tourists That may soon change The land where Rihanna came from calls the whole family to some sun and surf And you'll also enjoy caves, submarines and lots — lots — of rum



In Barbados, warm Caribbean waters caress its western shores, the wild Atlantic is to the east, and rum takes care of everything in between.

KATE THOMAS

As the cold winds come down from the north, out come the wistful screensavers depicting golden sunsets, limpid waters, swaying hammocks and sweet drinks with little pink umbrellas. But when you get tired of holding your mouse really still to get a glimpse of digital paradise, think about cashing in those unused vacation days and heading down to Barbados. The warm Caribbean waters caress its western shores, the wild Atlantic is to the east, and rum takes care of everything in between.

Kate Thomas
letters@metro.us

Catch you on the sunny side

Once a British colony and still part of the Commonwealth, English-speaking Barbados has long been a favorite retreat for the kind of people who like baked beans for breakfast. American tourists are a bit of a novelty on this unspoiled coral island, and you're unlikely to get stuck with a raucous party of spring breakers in the room above you. There's a thriving nightlife, but the island's true siren song is one of tranquility and family-friendliness.

Where to stay

All-inclusive is the way to go for a stress-free vacation in the sun. **Mango Bay resort (www.mangobaybarbados.com)** offers everything you could ask for: Rooms with a fantastic view, helpful staff, a good bar, breakfast (there will be beans), lunch and semiformal dinner, a Caribbean beach with watersports and a sigh-inducing sunset. The resort is literally just steps from a street bustling with nightlife and a European-style mall with high-end retailers.

The resort also offers wedding packages, nightly live entertainment and plenty for the kids to do.

Tip: If rum isn't your thing, the resort's bartenders do sweet, smooth justice to a mango martini.

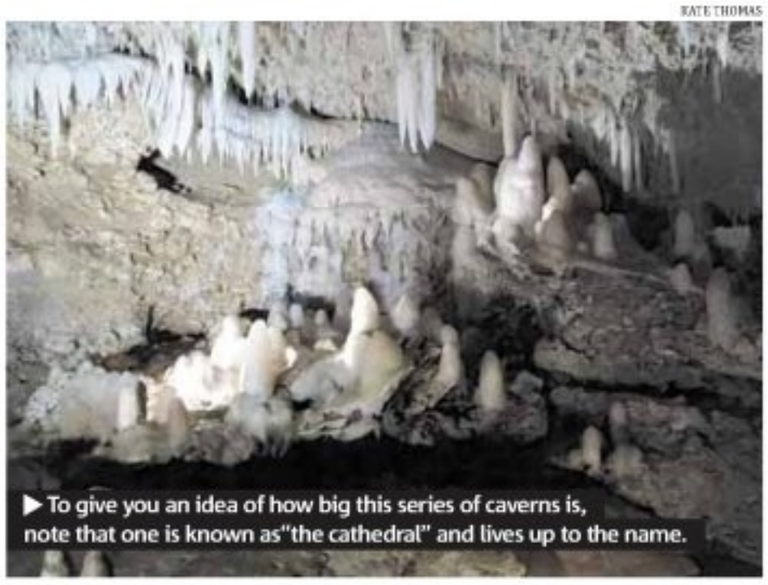
More than sand and surf

If you're the kind of person whose tan more closely resembles Santa's rosy cheeks than the electric orange of Jersey Shore beach bums, don't despair. Here's a sample of activities that don't require your own weight in SPF 9000:

Take a submarine ride: Unlike most of its volcanic neighbors, Barbados is a coral reef topped with clay and dirt. Its spectacular origins are visible 140 feet below the azure waves. Get down with the periscope crowd at **Atlantis submarine tours (www.barbados.atlantissubmarines.com)** and view the best in teeming sea life. If you've ever wanted to see an actual shipwreck, complete with Titanic-style eeriness and barnacles, this is your chance.

Cave in and take a cavern tour: Barbados has become a little easier on the casual, less adventurous traveler in recent years, and **Harrison's Cave** is a good example **(www.harrisonscave.com)**. The series of caverns, among the largest and best on the island, offer a sit-back-and-relax trolley tour for families and those who packed nothing but beer cozies and flip-flops in their luggage. It also offers a more hands-on and strenuous set of adventure tours for the more daring tourist. Whichever you chose, make sure to mind the iPhones — the caves are alive, and thus very drippy.

KATE THOMAS



To give you an idea of how big this series of caverns is, note that one is known as "the cathedral" and lives up to the name.

Rum, rum everywhere, and oh, are there a lot of drops to drink: There might be a secret competition on Barbados as to who can serve the best —and the most— rum punch. It's all pretty delicious, so don't pass up a taste. If you want a bit more history and a little less punch, visit **Mount Gay distillery** (mountgayrum.com). They've got lunch, a museum, an informative (and musically dramatic) film and a tasting. Rumor has it that Mount Gay was George Washington's favorite rum.

There's something fishy in the state of Barbados: Friday nights at **Oistin's Fish Fry** are a crowded affair — just about everyone, their mother and their children comes out for an evening of food, song and drink. It's the perfect place for out-of-towners to mix with Bajans and try local fare.

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Seek Warm Weather, It's Good for You

Researchers find connection between sun-splashed getaways and elevated mood

Most people believe that the sun can do wonders for one's mood, but science suggests that mid-winter is the best time to get a warm weather boost.

"Being outside in pleasant weather really offers a way to reset your mind," Matthew Keller, a researcher at the University of Michigan, told *Science Daily*. "If you go from winter to spring... there's a noticeable change."

So what does this mean? Hit up warmer climes in the middle of winter to get the most out of your vacation—and stay as long as possible, as mood, memory and creativity were shown to improve in direct correlation to time spent outside in the sun.

Need another reason to start planning your next getaway? According to researchers at San Francisco State University, people who spend money on travel and other experiences tend to be happier and more well-liked than people who spent their money on material things.

In fact, about 60% of experiential spenders said they were satisfied with their life overall, as opposed to 40% of material spenders. They were also more likely to get along with others and feel less anxiety in a variety of social situations.

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eco•tour•ism *(n) Tourism in exotic, often threatened natural environments, esp. to support conservation efforts and observe wildlife.*

4 Ways to Heat Up Your Winter

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goaheadtours.com/crp

2 Thailand
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goaheadtours.com/tai

3 Brazil
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goaheadtours.com/bra

4 Cambodia
Winter brings cool breezes to the vine-clad ruins of Angkor Wat, a marvel of Kmer architecture and prime sunset-watching spot.
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3

Brady isn't satisfied with three rings, just look at the fine print

Opinion

The Celtics could go off the grid at any moment over the next few years. The Red Sox have better odds of finishing in the basement of the AL East this year than finishing first. The Bruins play in the NHL, a league in which nearly every team in the 16-team tournament each spring has a legit shot at winning a title.

After all these years, there is just one sure thing left in the Boston sports universe — Tom Brady and the Patriots will challenge for a championship this fall and next winter.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Tom Brady ensured Boston sports fans yesterday that the Patriots will be in the mix until 2017 by signing a new extension.

Brady ensured that the good times will roll Monday. The quarterback signed an extremely team-friendly deal (three-year extension, $27 million total), that will keep him in a Patriots uniform until he is 40 years old, according to Sports Illustrated.

Now, anyone who makes $27 million over any period of time can't really be called "selfless."

If Brady was truly selfless he'd tell Bob Kraft over a Grey Goose, "Hey, Gisele makes more money than God. Just give me as much as Matthew Slater and we'll call it a deal."

But in today's warped sports world, No. 12 is the closest thing to "selfless" as you'll find. By just looking at the numbers of this deal (cap numbers of just $13 million in 2015, $14 million in 2016, $15 million in 2017), Brady is guaranteed to be the most underpaid player in the NFL over the next four years.

He is also putting his football legacy ahead of his financial legacy. He is saving the Pats a boatload of cash that they can now spend elsewhere (think Wes Welker is happy?).

His football legacy is, of course, already sparkling in these parts. But there have been more than a few people that have questioned whether or not Brady can get it done in the big spot anymore like he used to? Like, you know, it's possible to just wake up one day and lose a clutch gene.

Regardless of fictitious DNA, there is one thing that should be clear as day to Boston sports fans today: Brady is still hungry for a fourth Super Bowl ring, so much so that he's leaving millions of dollars on the Patriots' table.

It's hard to remember a Boston sports star who cared more about his legacy. Bill Russell, he of the 11 championship rings, is in the discussion. But he once demanded to be paid one dollar more than Wilt Chamberlain or he'd retire. It's clear that money sometimes equalled respect with Russell.

Brady knows he still has a bit to go to earn everyone's respect as one of the greatest quarterbacks of all-time, but without even throwing a pass yesterday his legacy grew.

Yup, we still know that the Patriots will challenge for a championship this fall and next winter. And yes, we'll be able to say that same thing next year and the year after.

It's one of those rare sure-things in sports, so much so that you can take it to the bank.

Matt Burke
matthew.burke@metro.us

In the news

Te'o a step slow

Manti Te'o's draft stock already took a major hit after his "Catfish" drama last month. Yesterday, Te'o was a step slow at the NFL Combine with a 40-yard dash time of 4.82.

DIRECTORY

Medical Research

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- Diagnosed with moderate-to-severe chronic back pain by your doctor
- Experiencing low back pain for a minimum of 6 months

All study-related visits, tests, care, and study drugs will be provided to you at no cost. In addition, reimbursement for study-related time and travel may be provided.

To learn more about this study, please contact:
ANALGESIC SOLUTIONS
781-444-9605 x 136

Do you have bipolar I disorder?

If you're being treated for bipolar I disorder and still feeling depressed, you may qualify to take part in a 4-month study that evaluates the effectiveness of a new investigational drug for bipolar disorder.

If enrolled, you will:
- have a 75% chance of receiving the study drug (25% chance of placebo)
- receive study-related care at a bipolar specialty clinic
- receive compensation for your time and travel

To qualify, you must:
- Be 18-75 years old
- Take medication for Bipolar I disorder

Partners Human Research Committee
APPROVAL Effective Date
February 06, 2013

Call 1-866-99-MOODS
MGH Bipolar Clinic and Research Program

Got Asthma?

Learn how our Vitamin D research study may help you.
Compensation up to $1,105

1-888-99-ASTHMA
ARC@partners.org
www.AsthmaBWH.org
BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL

SUFFERING WITH IBS?

We are conducting a clinical research study of an investigational drug. If you meet the following criteria, you may be interested in participating in this clinical trial.

- you are between the ages of 18 and 70
- your IBS symptoms are pre dominantly diarrhea related
- you have had frequent abdominal pain associated diarrhea for at least 6 months

Participants will receive study drug and exams at no cost. Reimbursement for time and travel may be available.

Beacon Clinical Research, LLC
508-584-2030 ext. 210
info@beaconclinical.com
www.BeaconClinical.com

Whole Grain Study

Researchers at Tufts University Invite you to Participate in a Nutrition Study

TUFTS | HNRCA
Healthy Aging
THROUGH NUTRITION RESEARCH
JEAN MAYER USDA HUMAN NUTRITION RESEARCH CENTER ON AGING
http://hnrc.tufts.edu

You may qualify if you:
- **Are 45-65 years old** (women must be >1yr postmenopausal)
- Have a BMI between 20-35 kg/m2
- Are not a vegetarian & not diabetic
- Have eating habits that meet study criteria
- Do not have gastrointestinal problems
- Do not smoke

And you are willing to:
- Have a medical exam / fill out questionnaires
- Have blood drawn, give saliva, urine & stool
- Consume our study diet for 8 weeks, and make multiple visits to the center to pick up study food

Earn up to $765 if you qualify & complete the diet portion of this study, or $225 if you qualify & complete study as a negative control.

For more information please e-mail volunteers-hnrc@tufts.edu or call 1-800-738-7555 Study #2720

NOT SEEING THE RESULTS YOU WANT FROM YOUR ANTIDEPRESSANT?

Please consider our depression research study.

Our office is conducting a research study to evaluate whether adding an investigational medication to an approved antidepressant therapy might give relief from the symptoms of major depressive disorder (MDD) when added to a current antidepressant.

You may be able to take part in this study if you:

- Are 18 - 65 years old,
- Have been diagnosed with Major Depressive Disorder (MDD),
- Have been experiencing symptoms of depression for at least the past 2 months,
- Have been taking at least one antidepressant medication as prescribed but it is not helping you enough.

Additional criteria will be assessed by the study doctor.

The study lasts 15 to 22 weeks. Participants will receive either the investigational medication or a placebo (an inactive substance).

All study-related medications, office visits and examinations will be provided to you at no cost.

To learn more about the Depression Research Study call:

Coastal Research Associates

781-849-7766

Compensation for time and travel
Easy Access via MBTA Redline Ⓣ

www.MDDResearchStudy.com

COMPASS

Forsyth

The Forsyth Institute

DO YOUR GUMS BLEED?
DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE GUM DISEASE?

Our 12-month long study requires a screening appointment to see if you qualify.

- 18 years old and a non-smoker
- Gum disease

If you qualify:

- Your gum treatment/surgery will be provided to you at no charge.

Additional compensation - you will also receive up to $300 upon completion of the study.

If you are interested please call or email for more information:

617-892-8600 | clinicaltrialsinfo@forsyth.org

ARE YOU STILL DEPRESSED?

Taking medication to treat depression, but still feel

FLAT?

UNMOTIVATED?

NO ENJOYMENT OF LIFE?

Boston Clinical Trials is conducting a new research study of investigational medication for DEPRESSION.

Compensation for participation

Call today **(617) 477-4868** or email **studies@bostontrials.com**

For more information visit **www.bostontrials.com**

BCT Boston Clinical Trials

Free parking, near public transportation, evening appointments available.

Cover up because you want to, not because you feel you have to.

You may be interested in learning about a clinical research study of an investigational study medication for symptoms associated with plaque psoriasis.

The purpose of this clinical research study is to determine the safety and effectiveness of an investigational study medication for the symptoms associated with plaque psoriasis.

You may qualify if you:

- Are 18 years of age or older
- Have been diagnosed with moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis for at least 6 months
- Have not previously taken etanercept (Enbrel®)

In order to qualify, there are other requirements that must be met.

Qualified participants will receive all study-related medical care and study medication at no charge.

All appointments will be at a clinical research center near you.

To find out more information, please call: **617.636.7462**

the UNCOVER-3 study

HAVE YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME?

If so, there is now an opportunity to join a new research study. Are you eligible?

- **Between the ages 18-80 years old**
- **Have diarrhea predominant irritable bowel syndrome**

Abdominal Pain, Bloating, Diarrhea

Qualified participants will receive investigational medication or inactive placebo, study-related testing, physical exams, and lab work at no charge. Additionally, compensation may be available to qualified participants for each completed visit (for time and travel).

For more information, please contact Medvadis Research at 617-744-1310

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This is the watch Stephen Hollingshead, Jr. was wearing when he encountered a drunk driver. Time of death 6:55pm.

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.

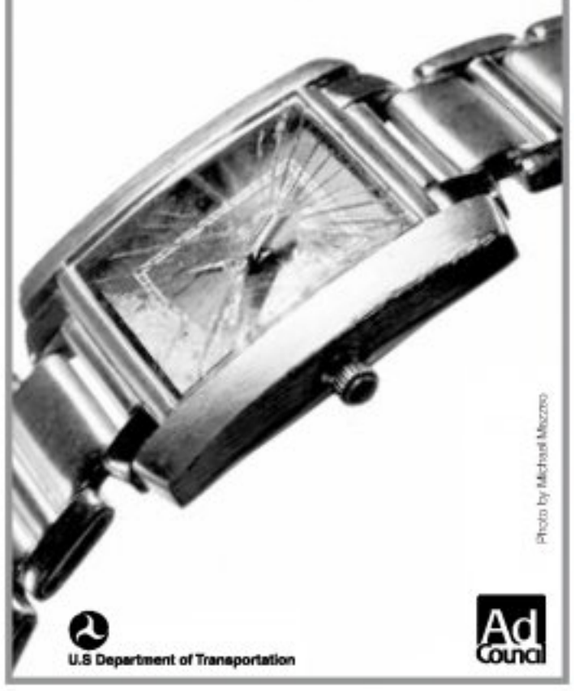

Photo by Michael Mazzeo

U.S Department of Transportation
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Are you a male 26 years old or older?

Do you have problems with ejaculation (release of semen)?

MHB
MEN'S HEALTH BOSTON

Men's Health Boston is offering a research study for men looking at the effects of an investigational medication on ejaculation.

You may qualify if:
- If you are unable to ejaculate
- It takes you a longer time to ejaculate
- You experience decreased force of ejaculation
- You think your semen volume is low

Financial compensation provided.

Please call us if you would like more information.
617-277-5000
www.menshealthboston.com

Moving is the best medicine.
Keeping active and losing weight are just two of the ways that you can fight osteoarthritis pain. In fact, for every pound you lose, that's four pounds less pressure on each knee. For information on managing pain, go to fightarthritispain.org.

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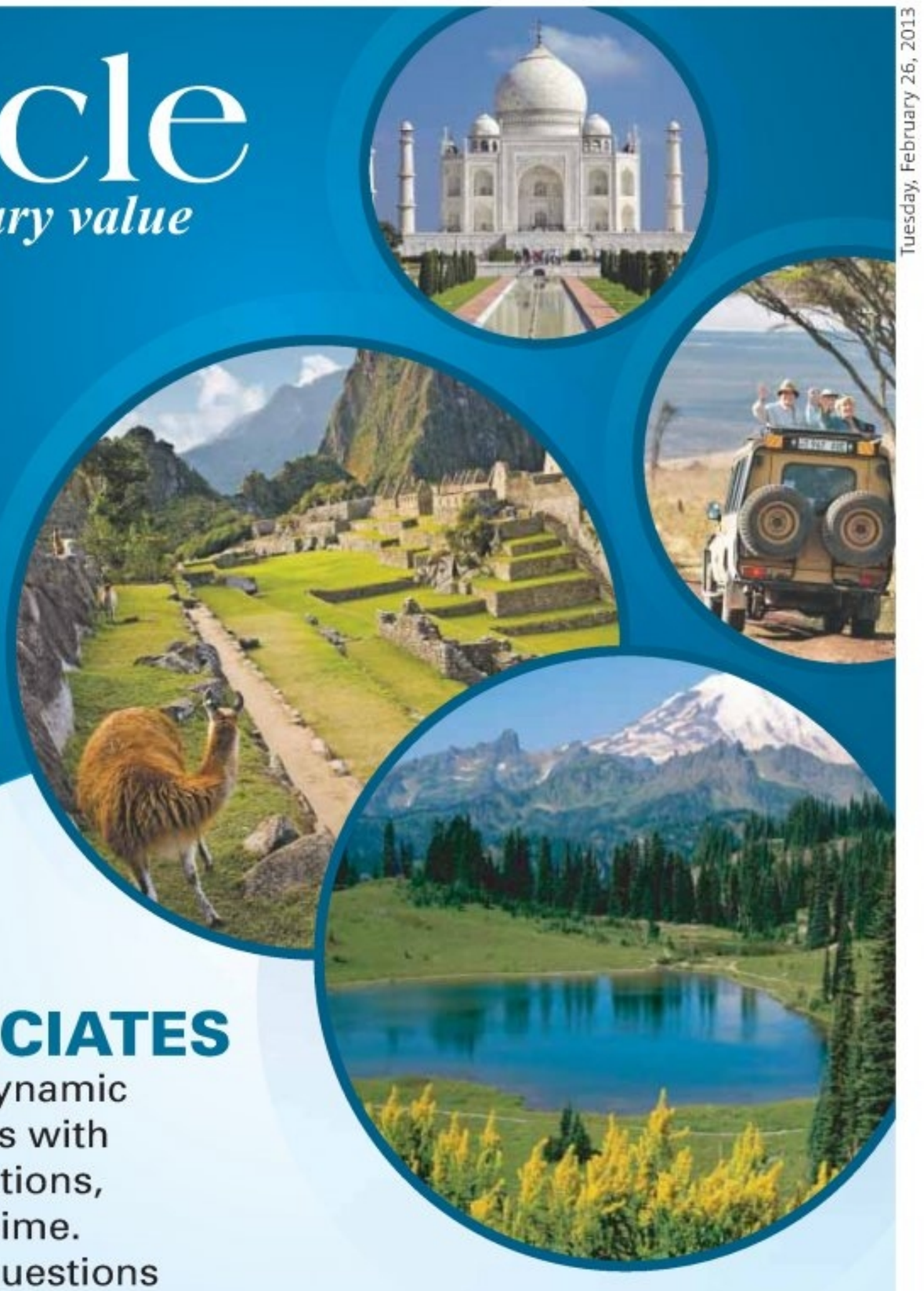

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